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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 19, line 10, "material, said" has been deleted and --material, wherein said-- has been inserted to make the claim read more fluidly.

In claim 19, line 11, "construction, said needle has an external" has been deleted and --construction, and has an external-- has been inserted to make the claim read more fluidly.

In claim 19, line 13, "and said" has been deleted and --and wherein said-- has been inserted to make the claim read more fluidly.

In claim 20, line 3, "the bodies" has been deleted and --the magnetic bodies-- has been inserted to eliminate a 112 issue.

In claim 25, line 2, "guide means include" has been deleted and --means for guiding the needle includes-- has been inserted to eliminate a 112 issue.

In claim 25, line 5, "actuating" has been deleted and --magnetic-- has been inserted to eliminate a 112 issue.

In claim 27, line 2, "the" has been deleted to eliminate a 112 issue.

In claim 30, line 5, "the open state and the closed state," has been deleted and --an open state and a closed state,-- has been inserted to eliminate a 112 issue.

In claim 31, line 4, "while" has been deleted and --wherein-- has been inserted to make the claim read more fluidly.

In the abstract, line 3, "Said" has been deleted and "The" has been inserted to remove legal phraseology from the abstract.

In the specification, Page 1, between lines 1 and 2, --FIELD OF THE INVENTION-- has been inserted.

In the specification, Page 1, between lines 4 and 5, --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION-- has been inserted.

In the specification, Page 2, before line 1, --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--has been inserted.

In the specification, Page 4, between ¶3 starting with 'According' and ¶4 starting with 'The', --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS-- has been inserted.

In the specification, Page 6, before line 1, --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS-- has been inserted.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the primary reason for allowance is the inclusion of the limitation "said needle is of unitary, one-piece construction and has an external radial surface provided with grooves between, and delimiting, said ribs" in combination with the other claimed elements.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably Application/Control Number: 10/551,283 Page 4

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 5,484,133 to Oliver and US Patent No. 7,004,446 B2 to Petro
et al. disclose examples of magnetically actuated valves known in the art at
the time of applicant's invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JONATHAN WOOD whose telephone number is (571)270-7422. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver can be reached on (571)272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JKW/ Examiner, Art Unit 3754

/Kevin P. Shaver/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3754